

**Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. **(previously presented)** A computing entity comprising:
  - a computer platform comprising a plurality of physical and logical resources including a first data processor and a first memory;
  - a monitoring component comprising a second data processor and a second memory;
  - wherein, said computer platform is capable of operating in a plurality of different states, each said state utilizing a corresponding respective set of individual ones of said physical and logical resources;
  - wherein said monitoring component operates to determine which of said plurality of states is the current operating state of said computer platform.
2. **(previously presented)** The computing entity as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first memory means contains a set of instructions for configuration of said plurality of physical and logical resources of said computer platform into a pre-determined state.
3. **(previously presented)** The computing entity as claimed in claim 1, in which exit of said computer platform from each said operating state is monitored by said monitoring component.
4. **(original)** The computing entity as claimed in claim 1, wherein said monitoring component includes a BIOS file.
5. **(original)** The computing entity as claimed in claim 1, wherein said computer platform comprises an internal firmware component configured to compute a digest date of a BIOS file data stored in a predetermined memory space occupied by a BIOS file of said computer platform.

**6. (previously presented)** A method of activating a computing entity comprising a computer platform having a first data processor and a first memory and a monitoring component having a second data processor and a second memory, into an operational state of a plurality of pre-configured operational states into which said computer platform can be activated, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting a state of said plurality of pre-configured operational states to activate for said computer platform;

activating said selected state for said computer platform according to a set of stored instructions;

wherein said monitoring component monitors activation of said selected state by recording data describing which of said plurality of pre-configured states is activated.

**7. (previously presented)** The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said monitoring component continues to monitor said selected state after said state has been activated.

**8. (original)** The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said monitoring component generates a state signal in response to a signal input directly to said monitoring component by a user of said computing entity, said state signal indicating which said state said computer platform has entered.

**9. (original)** The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said set of stored instructions are stored in a BIOS file resident within said monitoring component.

**10. (original)** The method as claimed in claim 6, comprising the step of generating a menu for selection of a said pre-configured state from said plurality of pre-configured states.

**11. (currently amended)** The method as claimed in claim 8 ~~claim 6~~, comprising the step of generating a user menu displayed on a user interface for selection of a said pre-configured

state from said plurality of pre-configured states, and said step of generating a state signal comprises generating a state signal in response to a user input accepted through said user interface.

**12. (original)** The method as claimed in claim 7, in which said step of selecting a state of said plurality of pre-configured operational states comprises receiving a selection signal from a smartcard device, said selection signal instructing a BIOS of said computer platform to activate the said computer platform into a selected state.

**13. (previously presented)** The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said step of selecting a state of said plurality of pre-configured operational states comprises receiving a selection message from a network connection, said selection message instructing a BIOS file of said computer platform to activate said computer platform into a selected state.

**14. (previously presented)** The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said step of monitoring a selected state comprises:

immediately before activating said computer platform, creating by means of a firmware component a digest data of a first pre-allocated memory space occupied by a BIOS file of said computer platform;

writing said digest data to a second pre-allocated memory space to which only said firmware component has write access; and

said monitoring component reading said digest data from said second pre-allocated memory space.

**15. (currently amended)** The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said step of monitoring said state into which said computer platform is activated comprises:

executing a firmware component to compute a digest data of a BIOS file of said computer platform;

writing said digest data to a predetermined location in said second memory [means] of said monitoring component.

**16. (previously presented)** The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said step of activating selected state comprises:

at a memory location of said first memory, said location occupied by a BIOS file of said computer platform, storing an address of said monitoring component which transfers control of said first processor to said monitoring component;

storing in said monitoring component a set of native instructions which are accessible immediately after reset of said first processor, wherein said native instructions instruct said first processor to calculate a digest of said BIOS file and store said digest data in said second memory of said monitoring component; and

said monitoring component passing control of said activation process to said BIOS file, once said digest data is stored in said second memory.

**17. (previously presented)** The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein said step of monitoring said activated state comprises:

after said step of activating said selected state, monitoring a plurality of logical and physical components to obtain a first set of metric data signals from those components, said metric data signals describing a status and condition of said components;

comparing said first set of metric data signals determined from said plurality of physical and logical components of said computer platform with a set of pre-recorded metric data stored in a memory area reserved for access only by said monitoring component; and

comparing said first set of metric data signals obtained directly from said plurality of physical and logical components with said set of pre-stored metric data signals stored in said reserved memory area.

**18. – 22. (cancelled)**

**23. (new)** The method as claimed in claim 6, further comprising the step of importing from a storage medium data generated when the computer platform was previously in the same selected state.

**24. (new)**                      The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the monitoring component monitors the data imported from the storage medium before it is loaded.

**25. (new)**                      A method of storing data at a computing entity comprising a computer platform having a first data processor and a first memory and a monitoring component having a second data processor and a second memory, said method comprising the steps of:

- initiating a session on the computing platform;
- the monitoring component recording state data describing a current operational state of the computing platform;
- generating data in the session; and
- storing the generated data with reference to the state data so that the generated data may be recovered in a future session of the computing platform in the same operational state.

**26. (new)**                      The method as claimed in claim 25, wherein the generated data is encrypted to ensure recovery only in a future session of the computing platform in the same operational state.